

# Goshen Lake Weed Committee

Goshen Town Hall  
42A North Street  
Goshen, CT 06756

February 27, 2019

Senator Cohen and Representative Demicco  
Environment Committee, Co-Chairs  
Legislative Office Building, Room 3200  
Hartford, CT 06106

## **RE: Proposed House Bill No. 6637 – AN ACT REQUIRING AN INVASIVE SPECIES STAMP FOR THE OPERATION OF A MOTORBOAT ON THE INLAND WATERS OF THE STATE**

Dear Senator Cohen and Representative Demicco:

The Town of Goshen Lake Weed Committee would like to express our support for the passage of H.B. 6637 and the substitute language the Connecticut Federation of Lakes has provided.

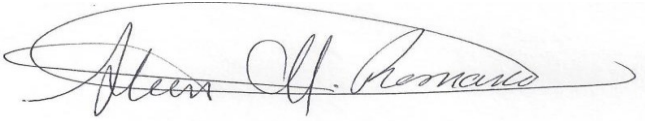
Goshen is fortunate to have four lakes and ponds that offer tremendous recreational value for both residents of our community and visitors from other towns and states. Three of these have state boat launches. Unfortunately like many other water bodies and watercourses within the state Dog Pond, West Side Pond, Tyler Lake, and Woodridge Lake have all seen an increase in the abundance of non native invasive aquatic species. This impacts both the recreational value and ecology of these water bodies.

Goshen recognized the problem in 2013 when scientists from the Connecticut Agriculture Experiment Station's Invasive Aquatic Plant Team identified infestations of Eurasian water milfoil and other invasives. Shortly afterward the Town of Goshen formed the Lake Weed Committee and has supported efforts and appropriated funding for the removal of these plants.

Members from each pond or lake serve on this committee and have organized fundraisers to raise additional money from residents and businesses in the community to add to the town's contribution. This work is ongoing and a dedicated funding mechanism that is supported by one of the largest contributors of the spread of invasive aquatic species will help augment efforts to raise awareness through education as well as provide essential funds to commit to this work since it is a management task that lasts for many years.

Thank you for your consideration to support this legislation; it would be a huge step in protecting the quality of our lakes and ponds throughout Connecticut.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Steven M. Romano". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steven M. Romano  
Chair, Goshen Lake Weed Committee

cc: Senator Craig Miner, 30th District  
Representative Jay Case, 63rd District  
Representative Maria Horn 64th District